

HOUSE No. 543

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Denise Provost

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act authorizing the establishment of senior citizen safety zones.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Denise Provost	27th Middlesex
Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.	26th Middlesex
Richard J. Ross	9th Norfolk
Paul McMurtry	11th Norfolk
Michael F. Rush	10th Suffolk
Benjamin Swan	11th Hampden

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 623 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SENIOR CITIZEN SAFETY ZONES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 85 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2004 Official Edition, is hereby
2 amended by inserting after section 21A the following section:-

3 Section 21B. Notwithstanding section 2 of chapter 85 of the General Laws, a city may establish
4 by ordinance, on public ways under the care and custody of the city, a senior citizen safety zone,
5 which may be an area adjacent to a facility which may be publicly or privately owned and used
6 as senior citizen housing, a hospital, nursing home or assisted living facility, a community center
7 of which senior activities are conducted on a regular basis or a congregate elderly facility
8 approved as a planned unit development by the city.

9 In a senior citizen safety zone, the city may, by ordinance under the direction of the traffic
10 engineer, take necessary action to reduce vehicular speed by reducing speed limits to not less
11 than 20 miles per hour or such lower speed limit as is set for school zones and by installing
12 signals or appropriate signs and restriping roadways. The traffic engineer may adopt and amend
13 rules and regulations to carry out this section.

14 The city shall notify the state traffic engineer upon the establishment of a senior citizen safety
15 zone. The city shall notify the state traffic engineer of any reduction of speed on a functionally
16 classified local roadway.

17 This section shall not apply to any state highway, numbered route or functionally-classified
18 arterial.

19 SECTION 2. Section 17 of chapter 90 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2004 Official
20 Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the word "hour", in line 15, the following words:-

21 , or (5) within a senior citizen safety zone which may be established by a city or town as provided in
22 section 21A of chapter 85 at a rate of speed exceeding 20 miles per hour or such lower speed limit as is
23 set for school zones.